

## City files legal action against hate group planning rally

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Today, the City of Dayton will file suit against the hate group planning to hold a rally at Courthouse Square on May 25, 2019. The Dayton City Commission directed the City's Law Department to take appropriate legal action to ensure that Dayton citizens remain safe.

The complaint, filed on March 13, 2019, requests injunctive and declaratory relief in the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas. This action was taken as it became clear that this group is a paramilitary organization that is attempting to hold a militaristic rally in violation of the Ohio Constitution. Further, its paramilitary activities will create a public nuisance in the city of Dayton. As a result, the City of Dayton is requesting that the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas declare the paramilitary activity as unlawful and enjoin the hate group from violating the Ohio Constitution and from creating a public nuisance.

"Like many of you, the Commissioners and I were distressed to learn that this group planned to hold their event in Dayton and that Montgomery County was legally obligated to accept their permit," said Mayor Nan Whaley at the press conference announcing the suit. "But I have been heartened by the response of Daytonians - our community has made it completely clear that hate is not a Dayton value."

The City also announced a forum to discuss the community's response to the rally. The Commissioners encouraged all to attend who are interested in discussing a unified response. The meeting will take place on Wednesday, March 20, at 7 p.m., at Grace United Methodist Church, 1001 Harvard Blvd.

"The City of Dayton will not allow our city to be threatened by this group or their message of hate," Mayor Whaley continued. "The City condemns any attempt to divide our community and intimidate our neighbors."

The complaint is attached to this news release; the official filing may be obtained through the Montgomery County Clerk of Courts.

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